



Descriptions of Compensable Fatalities by Industry (NAICS), Oregon, 2007

Information Management Division

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Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing (including logging) NAICS 11

Logger was flagging traffic for an active logging operation that was cutting trees near a road when a logging truck backed over him. Prior to the fatal incident, the victim had just flagged forward two logging trucks. The second logging truck's driver did not see the victim behind him and started backing up until noticing he had backed over the victim. The victim died of traumatic crushing chest injuries. (Investigated by Oregon OSHA)

Choker setter was setting chokers at a timber logging operation. The hillside location was sloped at a 35- to 40-degree angle. Above him on the slope lay an 18-foot by 40-foot unstable rotting log from a much older, previous cutting operation. The rotting log broke free and traveled 180 feet to 200 feet down the hillside, striking and rolling over the victim. He died three months later from multiple blunt-force injuries.

Cattle ranch worker was riding a horse and sorting cattle with two other employees. He lost his balance and scared the horse. The horse bolted and the worker rode the side of the horse for 50 feet before falling off. At some point he was kicked in the head by the horse causing fatal blunt-force traumatic head injuries.

Log truck driver was driving an empty log truck down a highway to retrieve a load of logs from another location. The roads were snowy and icy from a recent snowstorm. At some point, he failed to negotiate a left-hand turn and crossed the road. His truck went off the embankment and plunged 200 feet down into a creek bed. The victim was ejected from the vehicle on impact. He died from multiple injuries to multiple parts of his body. (Investigated by Oregon OSHA)

Wheat truck driver working on family farm was driving a loaded wheat truck down an incline. When he failed to shift into second gear, the truck started gaining speed as it went down the hill. He attempted to use the brakes to slow him down but they failed, and the truck jack-knifed, crashing into a ditch. The victim died on impact from multiple traumatic injuries.

Mining NAICS 21

Mining superintendent was operating a loaded truck when he drove off the edge of a single-lane bridge, went through the guardrail, and plunged 19 feet to the river below. His truck overturned into the river water when it fell, and he was trapped inside the cab and drowned.

Construction NAICS 23

Roofer was on top of residential building when he lost his footing near the edge. He fell 17 feet, striking his head on the deck below. He died two months later from multiple intracranial injuries. (Investigated by Oregon OSHA)

Carpenter was driving a pickup truck with one passenger southbound on a major freeway when he failed to negotiate a right-hand turn and lost control of the vehicle. The truck swerved across oncoming lanes, struck the guardrail, and ejected the driver from the vehicle. The driver was not wearing a seatbelt and died the next day from his head injuries.

Equipment operator standing next to a stationary backhoe was holding a heavy steel pin-pulling device he had been using to remove coupling pins from concrete barriers. He accidentally placed the pin-pulling device on the floor of the backhoe, depressing the control pedal of the backhoe and causing the excavator arm to swing back towards him. The arm crushed him against the left stabilizer landing gear of the backhoe. He died from traumatic crushing chest injuries. (Investigated by Oregon OSHA)

Painter was working on the second story of an apartment building. When he attempted to exit the second story and mount the ladder, he lost his footing and fell 10 feet to the concrete walkway below. Entry balconies on the second-floor apartments were not equipped with fall protection, and the worker had no other form of fall protection at the time of the incident. He died the next day from multiple head injuries. (Investigated by Oregon OSHA)

Journeyman welder was on a roof welding metal pieces to the main roof support structure. He fell through the unguarded floor in the roof 40 feet to the concrete floor below. He died from a cervical spine fracture. He was

wearing appropriate clothing, tool belt, helmet, facemask, and safety harness although all of the features of the safety harness may not have been properly utilized. His boots had worn tread and the roof may have been wet from a recent rain. (Investigated by Oregon OSHA)

Construction worker was doing underground water relocation work at an intersection. He was standing next to a track hoe with an eight-foot jackhammer attachment that was being used to break up the pavement. He was holding a sheet of plywood as a shield from the flying debris. A steel rod on the jackhammer came loose, causing the jackhammer to fall down onto the worker's head. He died from traumatic head injuries. (Investigated by Oregon OSHA)

Equipment supervisor for a road construction company was repairing a logging road that had been washed out by heavy rains. He was using a large excavator to move the dirt when the ground gave way, causing a landslide. He tried to jump out of the excavator but was caught in the avalanche and engulfed in the mud and rocks. The ground was waterlogged, but a preliminary inspection concluded that the ground stability would not fail. The victim died of crushing chest injuries. (Investigated by Oregon OSHA)

House painter was working alone, standing on a stepladder painting the exterior trim on a house. The ladder was placed on an uneven driveway at a slight incline. He fell from the top part of the ladder approximately 10 feet down onto the paved driveway. He died in the hospital nine days later from closed-head trauma and neck fracture. (Investigated by Oregon OSHA)

Pipe layer at a construction site laying sewer pipe was standing in a 30-foot-deep, 15-foot by 15-foot hole. He was standing in a manhole box guiding the large piece of concrete pipe that had been lowered into the hole. The hole caved in and the dirt pinned the victim up against the side of the manhole. A large chunk of dirt struck the side of the concrete pipe and it swung into the worker, striking his head and causing traumatic brain injuries. He died 12 hours later in the hospital. (Investigated by Oregon OSHA)

Journeyman electrician working the controls of a "buddy tigger" pulling cable out of the back of a stationary flatbed truck when he lost consciousness and fell to the ground. He died two weeks later at the hospital from a perforated bowel and complications of pneumonia. (Investigated by Oregon OSHA)

Equipment operator was driving a flatbed truck on a state highway on his way to a worksite when he crossed the center line and struck a semi-truck head on. Road conditions were icy, which caused the victim's truck to spin into the oncoming lane. The victim died instantly from multiple traumatic injuries.

Construction worker was emptying an oil tank at an oil company's worksite. He was trying to vent it when the tank exploded. Worker died due to multiple internal injuries of the chest and abdomen from the blast's impact. Three other workers were also seriously injured in the blast, but did not die as a result of their injuries.

Manufacturing NAICS 31-33

Plant electrician was performing maintenance work on an overhead bridge crane when he lost his footing and fell 40 feet, striking his head on a steel partition before landing on the floor. He died from traumatic head injuries. (Investigated by Oregon OSHA)

Mechanic was standing at the driver's side door of a semi-tractor when he reached into the cab and started the vehicle. The truck was in reverse gear and immediately started traveling in reverse, hitting a nearby steel storage locker, pinning the worker between the cab frame and the locker. He died of blunt-force chest injuries and mechanical asphyxia. (Investigated by Oregon OSHA)

Maintenance millwright was standing on a catwalk observing the operation of a chop saw he had repaired earlier in the day. The saw was cutting logs to eight foot lengths and as the cut was made on a log, a short piece of the log got caught in the saw and flew out, striking the victim in the head and chest area. He died in the hospital two days later from massive chest and head injuries. (Investigated by Oregon OSHA)

Wholesale Trade NAICS 42

Forklift salesman was delivering a forklift to a business. As he was backing the forklift out of the back of the truck, the truck rolled forward. The forklift fell into the gap between the dock and the truck, landing on top of him. There were no safety blocks placed in front of the rear wheels to prevent the truck from rolling away from the bay. The worker died from crushing chest injuries. (Investigated by Oregon OSHA)

Technician of a paper company was driving a van on the interstate when he entered a construction zone. Conditions were daylight and dry. Construction site

was clearly marked. Traffic was moving slowly due to work activity in this zone. Directly in front of the driver was a semi-truck. The victim failed to slow down and crashed into the back of the semi-truck. He was wearing a seatbelt and the airbag deployed on contact. He died from multiple traumatic injuries.

Forklift operator was driving up a ramp from the warehouse into the truck trailer when the ramp slipped off the back of the trailer. The forklift fell sideways off the ramp onto the ground, pinning the worker beneath the roll cage. He died immediately from crushing head injuries. (Investigated by Oregon OSHA)

Retail Trade NAICS 44-45

Warehouseman of a department store was standing in an aisle in the warehouse. A co-worker was operating a forklift loaded with freight in the same aisle. As the operator backed up, he did not see the warehouseman standing there and he struck the victim, pinning him against a product rack. The victim died of severe blunt chest trauma. (Investigated by Oregon OSHA)

Transportation and Warehousing NAICS 48-49

Truck driver was driving a semi-truck on an out-of-state highway when she pulled over to assist a person in a disabled vehicle. It was late and conditions were dark. As the truck driver walked along the side of the highway to help the person, a car approached and hit her. The truck driver died from multiple injuries.

Truck driver was driving a semi-truck on an out-of-state highway carrying a load of wine when it collided with a transporter truck that was carrying automobiles. The two vehicles were traveling in the same direction. The victim was attempting to pass the other truck when his truck hit the rear end of the transporter. The impact caused a car on the top portion of the transporter to come loose from the load and fall off onto the victim's truck. He died from massive head trauma.

Truck driver on a maintenance road call was standing next to the highway putting fuel into a semi truck that was parked on the side of the road. Another semi-truck, coming down the highway, drifted onto the shoulder and struck the victim on the side of the road. The incident occurred in the early morning hours when it may not have been full daylight yet. The victim died from multiple traumatic injuries.

Real Estate, Rental and Leasing NAICS 53

Mechanic was working on a trailer inside a steel building with a concrete floor. He was repairing a door seal on the trailer and standing on a 10 foot stepladder. He was later found by co-workers at the bottom of the ladder, unconscious and unresponsive. He had fallen down from the ladder to the concrete floor. He died six days later from traumatic head injuries. (Investigated by Oregon OSHA)

Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services NAICS 54

Surveyor wearing an orange safety vest was setting up a tripod on the sidewalk along a local highway. An automobile exited the parking lot without stopping, drove onto the sidewalk, and struck the worker. The automobile ran over the victim, continued onto the street, dragging the worker underneath for 25 feet, and finally stopped when the car would no longer move. Co-workers ran out and lifted the car off of him. He died 16 hours later from traumatic head injuries. The incident occurred during daylight hours with rainy conditions. (Investigated by Oregon OSHA)

Administrative, Support, Waste Management and Remediation Services NAICS 56

Tree trimmer was topping a hemlock tree when the tree uprooted. The victim fell 50 feet with the tree and landed on a concrete patio. An examination of the tree revealed hollow roots and extensive rot on one side. The victim was wearing safety equipment, including a hard hat and earmuffs. He died from multiple head and neck injuries. (Investigated by Oregon OSHA)

Mill worker went to the planer tower to get a broken board out of the sorting machine. While dragging the piece of wood, the victim walked backward to the stairs. He reached the end of the catwalk and, in a bent over position, extended his foot over the stairway. His foot either missed or slipped off the stairway and he fell off the end of the catwalk, 17 feet to the wooden floor below. He died two days later from blunt head injuries. (Investigated by Oregon OSHA)

Health Care and Social Assistance NAICS 62

Retirement home director was meeting with a resident in the community room of the retirement home. A disgruntled resident joined the meeting, became upset, and left the room. He returned with a .22 caliber rifle and shot the victim in the head. She died immediately from her head injuries. The assailant had an extensive criminal past.

Other Services NAICS 81

Mechanic and two other workers were trying to fix a wind turbine that was malfunctioning. The victim was at the top of the tower working on the turbine gear drive. The blades had been locked for safety. When the blades were unlocked and turned back on, they were in an over-speed position causing the blades to hit the tower. The force caused the tower to bend in half and the worker fell to the ground with the top half of the tower. He died immediately from multiple traumatic crushing injuries. (Investigated by Oregon OSHA)

State and Local Government NAICS 92

Deputy sheriff was driving a patrol car, with his sirens and lights on, down the state highway in response to a police call for backup. As he was passing a car that had pulled over to the shoulder, he approached a curve in the road and encountered a car head-on in his lane. The patrol car flipped over onto its side, landed driver's side up in a ditch, and burst into flames. The officer was trapped in the wreckage and died of smoke inhalation. He was wearing his seatbelt.

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